

It seems to be needful to write when one of the most clear-headed, practical thinkers in Missouri calls publicly for my pencil.

Last winter I took a jaunt over into Washington county, which was described in the REGISTER. A few days ago I took another over much of the same ground, but under circumstances so different that the whole thing was substantially new.

A man that removes from Ironton to Bellevue must stand a process of physical acclimation, the magnetic conditions of the two locations are so different. Out of this ordeal I am now coming, and beg leave to add that whoever goes from Ironton through Bellevue to Belgrade must undergo a mental and moral acclimation, the conditions are so different. Now for the tramp.

Crossing Capt. Eidson's farm, I went westward on the line between him and Mr. Hill, and found on that road for the space of about ten rods an electrical condition proving the presence of either a rich deposit of mineral or a large body of strongly running water. I had watched the atmospheric conditions at that place for some time, but had not passed over the ground before.

I rested a few minutes in the store at Rev. E. H. White's, and made the acquaintance of Mr. White without disclosing my own name. The whole business is large and varied, and is in very capable hands.

Pushing rapidly along through the heat, at 12 M. I found myself safe but tired at home at Mr. T. H. Henderson's.

Now for what I saw while in that neighborhood. I made quite a number of very pleasant acquaintances, both men and women, young and old; prominent among them Dr. Waller Parker, Sr., whose trouble is a tendency to follow German metaphysics into Fogland, of which I believe he can be cured by a course of constitutional treatment. He is certainly a very pleasant gentleman. I made the acquaintance of a number of very clear-headed, practical old farmers, and so had an opportunity to estimate the working force of the region. It is admirable. There is very little display and a good deal of power. The people as a rule are industrious.

There is a good deal of good land in that region, some of which is for sale at reasonable rates. The crops were quite good, and fruit abundant. I have rarely eaten sweeter or finer peaches than those I found there.

About three miles northwest of Belgrade there is a strong lead formation. An attempt has been made to develop it, and abandoned because the attempt was made in utter disregard of the plainest common sense. The mineral is there in abundance beyond question.

The Missionary Baptists are carrying on a protracted meeting in that neighborhood, under the care of Rev. Hardy, and have good success. The United Baptists held their monthly meeting there on the second Sabbath of August, Elder John Martin being in charge. By request I preached in the forenoon on "The Christian's Conflict, Triumph and Reward." The principal feeling among the people seemed to be astonishment. I had on the five-dollar jeans suit I got at the Bonanza; it is a good deal the worse of the wear; and besides I wore a light straw hat, a check shirt and a pair of light shoes. Instead of a gold-headed cane, I carried a rather long piece of an old walnut rail, shaved down, and having a heavy, well-sharpened fish-spear for a socket. During the service the audience appeared to be spell-bound. At its close a Methodist minister would take no denial, I must preach at night, and he was told to make an appointment. By request of Mr. Thomas Henderson, a sermon was preached on "Judgment Beginning at the House of God." The house is large but it was packed; the interest was greater than in the morning. I never saw closer attention or better order, and do not know anywhere a more promising missionary field, or a more intelligent and earnest people.

During my trip I saw quite a number of colored people, and not an idle one among them.

It is customary for tourists to compliment the women. I have assented to the women on the long list of my acquaintances; and leaving out the noble mothers in Israel, of whom there is a host, whose beauty is in the spirit and not in the flesh, whose praise is not of men but of God, the younger element is divided into those who will be the complements of well educated and upright men, and those who will either supplement men or insist that men shall supplement them. The list of the first class is not a very long one; on it Pilot Knob counts one, Middlebrook two, Bellevue one, Caledonia one, Goodland one, Belgrade four, and bright, pretty Lizzie. If their husbands climb to the highest niches of mental and moral fame, with a helping hand kindly given, they will climb and stand beside them; they will be helps meet.

A picture of social Sunday life in St. Louis as seen despite the "Puritanical law." We extract from a late issue of the Post-Dispatch: "Yesterday afternoon a party of quiet burghers were playing auction pitch in a beer saloon on Cherokee street. By way of a joke Mr. August Dunker was accused of rubbing out too many points on the chalked circle. Mr. Frank Wahl, not directly interested in the proceedings, was particularly facetious in pushing the joke on the old gentleman. Mr. Dunker stepped into his house, next door, procured a pistol, came back, shot Mr. Wahl through the stomach and himself through the head and completely broke up the game."

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